

Isle of Wedmore Good Neighbours Constitution

1. NAME

1.1 The name of the organisation shall be **Isle of Wedmore Good Neighbours**.

2. STATUS

2.1 Isle of Wedmore Good Neighbours is a voluntary community organisation. Its legal status is as an unincorporated community association. It will be managed and staffed entirely by volunteers from the local community. No volunteer is entitled to any payment for services rendered but may be reimbursed any reasonable expenditure incurred in providing such services.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The aim of Isle of Wedmore Good Neighbours is to support local people in need in the Isle of Wedmore and surrounding communities (with a special focus on the elderly, isolated, lonely and vulnerable) in order to improve their quality of life. The Scheme will offer two main types of help:

- **Volunteer Driving.** With little public transport in our area, we will provide volunteer drivers, using their own cars, to help people to get to doctors' appointments, vaccinations, visits to hospital or to day care or community social events.
- **Volunteer Home Visitors.** Some elderly or frail people need help in their own houses, but for one reason or another, can't get help from official Social Services. We will provide volunteers who can visit them at home, maybe to do some basic domestic household tasks, gardening, or just a chat.

4. EQUALITY

4.1 Isle of Wedmore Good Neighbours respects the rights, dignity and worth of every person and will not discriminate on the grounds of gender, gender reassignment, race, colour, ethnic or national origin, sexuality, disability, religious or political belief, marital status or age.

5. MEMBERSHIP

5.1 Membership of Isle of Wedmore Good Neighbours is open to:

- Residents of the Isle of Wedmore and surrounding communities aged 18 or over who take on a volunteer role within the Scheme.

- Residents of the Isle of Wedmore and surrounding communities who otherwise actively support the aims of the Scheme (these categories are not mutually exclusive).

5.2 There is no membership fee.

6. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

6.1 The Scheme is run by a Management Committee who manage the day to day running of scheme and co-ordinate the work of volunteers. The Management Committee will comprise a minimum of three and a maximum of eight individuals, including Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. They will be elected annually by and from the membership at the AGM. They will serve for one year and may be re-elected indefinitely. The Management Committee may co-opt additional members, who must then put themselves forward for election at the following AGM.

6.2 The Management Committee with responsibility for running the Scheme until the first AGM are:

7. Chair: Johnny Torrens-Spence
8. Secretary: Cathy Butterworth
9. Treasurer: David Knight
10. Church Liaison: Karin Weigold

10.1 The Management Committee will appoint a designated Safeguarding Officer who will take lead responsibility for child and vulnerable adult protection.

10.2 The Management Committee may withdraw membership from any member who fails to comply with the Scheme's policies and standards of behaviour, provided that the person has the right to be heard before a final decision is made.

10.3 The Management Committee may, by a two-thirds majority vote and for a good and proper reason, remove any Management Committee member, provided that the person has the right to be heard before a final decision is made.

11. MEETINGS

11.1 The Management Committee will meet either in person or online at least twice a year. Seven days' notice of meetings, with an agenda, will be given to Management Committee members. The minimum quorum for meetings will be one third of the Management Committee membership. Decisions will be approved by a simple majority of those present, with the Chair having the casting vote. Members of the Scheme may attend Management Committee meetings, but may not vote.

11.2 The Annual General Meeting will be held each year in January, starting in 2022. All members of Scheme may attend and vote. Decisions will be approved by a simple majority of those present, with the Chair having the casting vote.

12. FINANCES

12.1 All funds received by the Scheme will be applied to further the aims and objects of the Scheme.

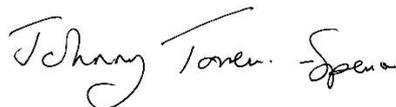
12.2 The funds of the organisation shall be held in a bank account in the name of the organisation. The Treasurer may hold a cash float of up to £100 to enable the payment of minor expenditure items. Cheques on the account shall be signed by two authorised signatories of the Management Committee.

13. CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION

13.1 This Constitution may only be altered by a two thirds majority vote of the members present at an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting.

13.2 If it is decided to dissolve the Scheme, all remaining money and other assets, will be donated to another group with similar objectives, as agreed at the meeting which decides the dissolution.

This is the constitution of the Isle of Wedmore Good Neighbours scheme which was adopted on 6th January 2021



Chair, Isle of Wedmore Good Neighbours